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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/708,890	11/08/2000	Jeffrey Mark Bertram	16600.105005	3107

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EXAMINER

OUELLETTE, JONATHAN P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/708,890

Applicant(s)

BERTRAM ET AL.

Examiner

Jonathan Ouellette

Art Unit

3629

MW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-81 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-81 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 12.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 18-81 are currently pending in application 09/708,890.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
3. **Claims 18-40, 54-69, and 79-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Travel Agent ("Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess," Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996) in view of World Airport Week ("FIDS Will Change the Face of Airport Management if Airports Pay Attention," World Airport Week, v3, n11, March 12, 1996).**
4. As per independent Claims 18, 31, 54, 66, and 79, Travel Agent discloses a computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure comprising the steps of: transmitting (receiving) the passenger-specific information to a processing system, wherein the passenger-specific information comprises one of passenger seating information, passenger upgrade status; and displaying the passenger-specific information on an electronic display coupled to the

processing system (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).

5. Travel Agent fails to disclose displaying, without input from the passengers, passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, and wherein the computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers includes passenger stand-by status and passenger connection information.
6. However, Travel Agent does disclose an interactive Kiosk in which the passenger can electronically receive flight information (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).
7. Official Notice is taken that flight information displays (FID) were well known and used at the time the invention was made. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to simply display the passenger flight information (including stand-by information and passenger connection information) for the advantage of increasing the efficiency of the passenger check-in and boarding process.
8. Travel Agent also fails to disclose wherein the computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers includes targeted advertising.
9. World Airport Week discloses a Flight Information Display System (FIDS), which incorporates relevant advertising messages along with flight information (“FIDS Will Change the Face of Airport Management if Airports Pay Attention,” World Airport Week, v3, n11, March 12, 1996).

10. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included targeted advertising, as disclosed by World Airport Week in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing a computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure with the ability to use the stored customer demographic information in order to increase revenue by offering customer specific advertising.
11. As per Claims 19 and 37, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the targeted advertising is selected based on information about the passenger.
12. As per Claims 20, 32, 55, and 67, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the electronic display is proximate to a departure gate.
13. As per Claim 21, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose projecting an idle mode screen, comprising general flight information, on the electronic display prior to transmission of the passenger-specific information.
14. As per Claims 22, 33, 58, 68, and 81, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the step of displaying the passenger-specific information comprises a transition from an idle mode screen to departure mode screen in response to a first trigger event, the departure mode screen comprising one of passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and targeted advertising.
15. As per Claims 23, 34, and 59, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the first trigger event is a designated time before departure.

16. As per Claims 24, 35, and 60, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the step of displaying the passenger-specific information comprises a transition from a departure mode screen to a boarding mode screen in response to a second trigger event, the boarding mode screen comprising one of passenger seating information, passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and targeted advertising.
17. As per Claims 25, 36, and 61, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the second trigger event is a designated before departure.
18. As per Claim 26, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the step of displaying an idle mode screen, a departure mode screen, and a boarding mode screen on the electronic display comprises passenger-specific advertising (see rejection of independent claims).
19. As per Claim 27, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein a departure mode screen and a boarding mode screen are displayed in association with the passenger-specific information.
20. As per Claims 28 and 38, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose clearing one of the passengers assigned a standby status to board; prompting the cleared passenger to board by displaying a prompt on the electronic display.
21. Travel Agent and World Airport Week fail to expressly disclose wherein, upon attempting to board, confirming the cleared passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system.

22. However, as stated in the inventor's declaration, submitted on 11/3/2003, "using a reader device at the departure gate was well known in the industry prior to October 3, 1999."
23. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included, upon attempting to board, confirming the cleared passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system, in the system disclosed by World Airport Week, in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, with the ability increase the security and effectiveness of the system by verifying/confirming the passengers before boarding.
24. As per Claims 29 and 39, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose approving an upgrade of one of the passengers; prompting the upgrade passenger to board by displaying the upgrade approval on the electronic display; and upon attempting to board, confirming the upgrade passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system (see rejection of Claims 28 and 38).
25. As per Claims 30, 40, and 69, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps.
26. As per Claim 56, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the remote computing system is coupled to a plurality of electronic displays.

27. As per Claims 57 and 80, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the electronic display is further operable for rendering one of an idle mode screen, a departure mode screen, and a boarding mode screen.
28. As per Claim 62, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose a scanning device coupled to the remote computing system, the scanning device operable for collecting identifying data from a passenger (see rejection of Claims 28 and 38).
29. As per Claim 63, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the scanning device is further operable for displaying the passenger's seating information (see rejection of Claims 28 and 38).
30. As per Claim 64, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the scanning device is further operable for printing a copy of the passenger's seating information (see rejection of Claims 28 and 38).
31. As per Claim 65, Travel Agent and World Airport Week disclose wherein the scanning device provides the identifying data to the remote computing system for confirming that the passenger is permitted to board.
32. **Claims 41-47 and 76-78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Travel Agent, in view of Ross (WO 9527949 A1).**
33. As per independent Claims 41 and 76, Travel Agent discloses a computer-implemented method for providing passenger seating information to passengers in a terminal comprising the steps of: receiving the seating information for one of the passengers at a computing system; (in response to a signal indicating a designated time prior to departure from the terminal) and displaying the passenger's seating information on an electronic

display coupled to the computing system (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).

34. Travel Agent fails to expressly disclose wherein the passenger’s seating information comprising a readily recognizable identifier for the passenger and a corresponding seat assignment.
35. Ross discloses a passenger information display, which displays a surname (or a portion of the surname) as a passenger identifier (Pg.21 L14-17)
36. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included wherein the passenger’s seating information comprising a readily recognizable identifier for the passenger and a corresponding seat assignment as disclosed by Ross, in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, with the ability increase the security and effectiveness of the system by displaying information based on a passenger-recognizable identifier.
37. As per Claim 42, Travel Agent and Ross fail to expressly disclose, upon attempting to board, reading the passenger’s identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing system; and using the passenger’s identity to confirm that the passenger is permitted to board.
38. However, as stated in the inventors declaration submitted on 11/3/2003, “using a reader device at the departure gate was well known in the industry prior to October 3, 1999.”

39. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included, upon attempting to board, reading the passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing system; and using the passenger's identity to confirm that the passenger is permitted to board, in the system disclosed by Ross, in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, with the ability increase the security and effectiveness of the system by verifying/confirming the passengers before boarding.
40. As per Claim 43, Travel Agent and Ross disclose displaying the passenger's seating information at the scanning device (see rejection of Claim 42).
41. As per Claim 44, Travel Agent and Ross disclose printing a copy of the passenger's seating information for the passenger.
42. As per Claims 45 and 77, Travel Agent and Ross disclose displaying passenger upgrade information on the electronic display.
43. As per Claim 46, Travel Agent and Ross disclose displaying the upgrade status for the passenger on the electronic display; determining that the passenger's upgrade is approved; displaying the passenger's upgraded seating information on the electronic display; and upon attempting to board, confirming the passenger's identity and upgraded seating information by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing system (see rejection of Claim 42).

44. As per Claims 47 and 78, Travel Agent and Ross disclose a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 41.
- 45. Claims 48-53 and 70-75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Travel Agent.**
46. As per independent Claim 48, Travel Agent discloses a computer-implemented method for displaying information to passengers in a terminal comprising the steps of: receiving the information for one of the passengers at a computing device; and displaying the passenger's information on an electronic display coupled to the computing device ("Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess," Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).
47. Travel Agent fails to expressly disclose displaying standby information.
48. However, Travel Agent does disclose an interactive Kiosk in which the passenger can electronically receive flight information ("Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess," Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).
49. Official Notice is taken that flight information displays (FID) were well known and used at the time the invention was made. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to include all types of flight information, to include stand-by information, for the advantage of providing the customer with all the information necessary to expedite the passenger check-in and boarding process.
50. As per Claim 49, Travel Agent discloses determining the standby passenger is approved for boarding; based on the approval for boarding, displaying the standby passenger's seating information on the electronic display coupled to the computing device.

51. Travel agent fails to expressly disclose, upon attempting to board, confirming the standby passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing device.
52. However, as stated in the inventors declaration submitted on 11/3/2003, "using a reader device at the departure gate was well known in the industry prior to October 3, 1999."
53. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included, upon attempting to board, confirming the standby passenger's identity by scanning an unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing device, in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, with the ability increase the security and effectiveness of the system by verifying/confirming the passengers before boarding.
54. As per Claim 50, Travel Agent discloses displaying the standby passenger's seating information at the scanning device (see rejection of Claim 49).
55. As per Claim 51, Travel Agent discloses printing a copy of the standby passenger's information at the scanning device (see rejection of Claim 49).
56. As per Claim 52, Travel Agent discloses displaying standby availability information on the electronic display.
57. As per Claim 53, Travel Agent discloses a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 48.

58. As per independent Claim 70, Travel Agent discloses a computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure comprising the steps of: transmitting the passenger-specific information to a processing system, wherein the passenger-specific information comprises passenger information; displaying the passenger-specific information on an electronic display coupled to the processing system; clearing one of the passengers to board; prompting the cleared passenger to board by displaying a prompt on the electronic display (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).
59. Travel agent fails to expressly disclose, upon attempting to board, confirming the cleared passengers identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system.
60. However, as stated in the inventors declaration submitted on 11/3/2003, “using a reader device at the departure gate was well known in the industry prior to October 3, 1999.”
61. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included, upon attempting to board, confirming the cleared passengers identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system, in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, with the ability increase the security and effectiveness of the system by verifying/confirming the passengers before boarding.

62. Travel Agent also fails to expressly disclose displaying standby information.
63. However, Travel Agent does disclose an interactive Kiosk in which the passenger can electronically receive flight information (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).
64. Official Notice is taken that flight information displays (FID) were well known and used at the time the invention was made. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to include all types of flight information, to include stand-by information, for the advantage of providing the customer with all the information necessary to expedite the passenger check-in and boarding process.
65. As per Claim 71, Travel Agent discloses displaying an idle mode screen, comprising general flight information, on the electronic display prior to transmission of the passenger-specific information.
66. As per Claim 72, Travel Agent discloses having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps previously recited.
67. As per independent Claim 73, Travel Agent discloses a computer-implemented method for displaying passenger upgrade information to passengers preparing to board for departure comprising the steps of: receiving the passenger upgrade information at a processing system; displaying the passenger upgrade information on an electronic display coupled to the processing system; approving an upgrade of one of the passengers (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).

68. Travel Agent fails to expressly disclose prompting the upgrade passenger to board by displaying the upgrade approval on the electronic display.
69. However, Travel Agent does disclose an interactive Kiosk in which the passenger can electronically receive flight information (“Wave of the Future? Agents Ponder American AAccess,” Travel Agent, v281, n6, p2, July 1, 1996).
70. Official Notice is taken that flight information displays (FID) were well known and used at the time the invention was made. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to include all types of flight information, to include upgrade approval information, for the advantage of providing the customer with all the information necessary to expedite the passenger check-in and boarding process.
71. As per Claim 74, Travel Agent fails to expressly disclose confirming the upgrade passenger’s identity upon attempting to board by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system.
72. However, as stated in the inventors declaration submitted on 11/3/2003, “using a reader device at the departure gate was well known in the industry prior to October 3, 1999.”
73. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included confirming the upgrade passenger’s identity upon attempting to board by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system, in the system disclosed by Travel Agent, for the advantage of providing computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure, with the ability increase the

security and effectiveness of the system by verifying/confirming the passengers before boarding.

74. As per Claim 75, Travel Agent discloses a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performed the steps previously recited.

Response to Arguments

75. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 18-81 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

76. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (703) 605-0662. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am - 5:00pm.

77. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (703) 308-2702. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and (703) 305-3597 for After Final communications.

78. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-5484.

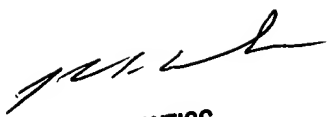
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January 28, 2004



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